

ALL THE NEWS  
THAT'S  
FIT TO PRINT

## Baxter Springs News.

BOOSTS FOR  
BAXTER  
ALL THE TIME

VOLUME XXXVII

BAXTER SPRINGS, CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS, FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 1918

NUMBER 4

WANTS HIS MONEY  
AS CONTRACTEDJ. T. WHITAKER BRINGS  
SUIT AGAINST COLUMBUS MEN

## FOR DRILLING NEAR THERE

Charge Failure and Refusal of  
Defendants to Pay or Complete Their Written Contract

Thru his attorney, A. F. Williams, J. T. Whitaker, of this city, has brought suit in the district court at Columbus against C. S. Voorhees and others for \$1,654.94, balance claimed due on contract for services rendered.

According to the petition filed, the suit is the outcome of a contract made about the 8th of last November, in which Chas. S. Voorhees, one of the defendants named, agreed to employ Mr. Whitaker to do five thousand feet of drilling, at the rate of \$1.50 a foot, said drilling to be done in the vicinity of Columbus.

Whitaker says that he proceeded to drill upon the various parcels of real estate, directed by the defendants, and drilled altogether four holes without striking pay ore, and that defendants have failed, refused, and neglected to pay him the balance due; and that they also failed, neglected and refused to advise him where to continue drilling, so as to complete the contract; all of which, as he alleges, caused him loss of time, and that finally he was compelled to take other employment to save further loss of time and money.

The Voorhees people are Iowa men, J. C. Voorhees, one of the defendants named, is reputed to be worth \$200,000, and is a resident of Anita, Iowa. Chas. S. Voorhees is a brother, and for some time has been interested in acquiring various properties in this part of Kansas, not only mineral leases, but farm land. It is said that the Voorhees people financed the purchases of the Dick Lowry farm.

The drilling operations, which are mentioned in the suit just filed, refer to the prospecting work done just southeast of Columbus. It is reported that a few "shiners" were struck, as is often the case, even in wildcat territory. Mr. Whitaker, the plaintiff, also drilled a hole in the city limits, in Columbus, just north of the negro school. Whether he found anything but water in it is probably known only to himself and the men interested.

Al Williams, attorney for Whitaker, says he is only interested in seeing his client get his money, and to aid in that respect he attached a farm in which Chas. S. Voorhees recently acquired a one-third interest. This farm is located east of Columbus, consisting of about 95 acres, and was recently sold by the Electric Investment Co. If a judgment is secured, and the case not previously settled, this farm would be sold at Sheriff's sale to satisfy the claim.

This farm appeared to be the only tangible real estate in Cherokee county owned by Chas. S. Voorhees.

BAXTER MAN SCORES  
HIGHEST AT 3 CUSHIONFred Lambert of This City Is  
High Man in Billiard Tournament—Runs 7 So Far at This Game

The three cushion billiard tournament going on at parlors in Joplin, Baxter Springs and Carthage is drawing good crowds and will be continued at Dunham's Parlor here tonight.

Fred Lambert playing for Dunham's at the Commercial Parlor in Joplin last night, defeated Snow Clark, who represents the Commercial Parlor, 35 to 15; Lambert's run of 7 is the high run of the tournament so far, at this game, and he has won two and lost one game which gives him a good chance at winning the tournament.

If you take an interest in billiards or pool, be sure and see the game this evening at Dunham's parlor—no admission charges.

BAXTER FAVORED  
IN THE GAS RATEGets Much Lower Price Than  
Other Southeast Kansas  
Cities and a Much Better Service

C. E. Burlingame, of Bartlesville, Okla., general manager of the Baxter Spring Gas company, was in Baxter today giving directions for still further improvements in the system. These will include a new main in the south part of town to take care of a new district and the removal of the reducing stations on Military street to less prominent points for the sake of improving the appearance of the street. The Gas company's decision to advance the price for gas only 10 cents a 1000 feet in Baxter Springs instead of hiking it to 55 cents as it no doubt could have done according to the ruling of the Supreme Court of Kansas, is something for which the people of Baxter Springs owe Mr. Burlingame a vote of thanks.

And, as a matter of fair play, the Daily Citizen is glad to give Mayor Wright credit also for having a hand in keeping the Baxter gas rate down. Some time ago, in discussing the subject with Mr. Burlingame the Mayor exacted a promise from him that he would not make the Baxter rate any higher than the rate that should be fixed for Miami. The Oklahoma utility commission finally fixed the Miami rate at 40 cents less 5 cents for prompt payment. Upon learning this Mr. Wright took occasion to get in touch with Mr. Burlingame and remind him of his promise. The manager of the gas company proved to be all that his name suggests and told the mayor without equivocation that he would stand by his promise, although he was sure that if he should take the case to the Kansas Court he would be allowed the 55 cent rate, the same as Columbus and Galena and all southeast Kansas towns. The new 35 cent rate will take effect March 1.

THREE PICHER PLANTS  
GET INTO LOWER RUNSPerin, Goodwin and Swift Will  
Produce Dirt From Deeper  
and Richer Ore Bodies  
in Future

Within the past few days three of the Eagle-Picher Mining Company's properties at Picher, Okla., have been put in shape to operate from the lower level.

It is just a coincidence that this came about at virtually the same time. At the Picher-Perlin, which is a short distance to the west of the Netta, the mill was completed last summer and operations were begun in the upper ground. Just about this time, however, the electric current supply ran short and pending relief along this line, Manager A. E. Bendelari, for the Picher company, decided to sink the shaft at the Perlin on down to the second level. This has now been accomplished and some of the dirt taken out at this level will be milled this week.

The other cases where the second level has been tapped are at the Goodwin and Swift, to the north of the Netta mine, not far from the state line. The shaft at the Goodwin, which is on the west side of the road, had been down to the lower level previous to this week, but at the Swift this had just been accomplished and Tuesday the two shafts which are not a great distance apart, were cut together.

This will permit considerable more dirt taking from each of these properties, and as the dirt is considerably richer in the lower level, should mean a decidedly increased production. The dirt at the Swift is said to be particularly rich. The company has done well in having kept these plants occupied pretty steadily with dirt from the upper level.

It is notable that in virtually all cases the dirt from the upper levels in the Picher camp is not nearly so rich as that in the deeper runs. This explains why in some cases new mills may be started up without making notable turn-ins for some time and then suddenly blossom out as bonanza properties.

## The Income Tax Problem

TO BUILD 100 NEW  
HOMES IN PICHERContract Is Awarded by Realty  
Company for Residences in  
Whitebird Addition,  
Says Report

One hundred residences are to be built in the Whitebird addition to Picher was the announcement recently by the Estes-Hicks Realty Company, which has awarded a contract for the erection of that many houses to the firm of Pettit & Higgins, contractors of Picher.

Construction was begun on eighteen houses this week. They are to be of four and five rooms, wired for electricity and have sanitary features which will make them as near modern as possible at this time.

The contracts involve \$150,000 worth of building operations, which is enough to assure the Whitebird addition of being an excellent residence section of Picher.

The houses are to be of various architectural designs and finished in a manner to make them as attractive in appearance as they will be attractive in modern facilities.

KANSAS WOMEN AS WAR  
WIRELESS OPERATORSWomen Being Trained As Wireless  
Operators At Kansas  
State University and  
Are Making Good

Five women and two men have enrolled in the University of Kansas war classes in wireless telegraphy that are being given the second semester which opened this month at the University. The laboratory and theoretical work in wireless is being given by Prof. M. E. Rice and is constituted to give the student a knowledge of setting up and maintaining a radio station. The code work, that of sending and receiving messages, is being given by W. H. Beltz, a student who returned to the University last fall after several months as a wireless operator on a trans-Atlantic steamer last summer.

Sixteen men are taking the University's two courses in airplane study and thirty men are in special war classes in gas engine work. Thirty-seven men who are waiting to be called in the draft are members of a special class in war French.

To meet war conditions every woman in the University is compelled to attend lectures on food uses and conservation once a week and special classes in food conservation and preparation are being attended by two men and forty women. In addition to the drill work there comprises a battalion made up of students, two courses in military science and tactics are being given by Prof. E. M. Briggs, formerly an officer of the First Kansas Infantry, K. N. G., and a major in the Harvard reserve officers training camp last spring and summer.

The campaign for enrolments in the United States Shipyard volunteers will continue until Kansas fills its quota of 2,000 men. A. A. Knapp, state director of the public service reserve, announces.

WATER PROBLEM  
WAS DISCUSSEDChamber of Commerce Trying  
to Discover Why Council  
Doesn't Take Steps to  
Get Better Service

The water situation in Baxter Springs was discussed to considerable extent at the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce last night, and several property owners and business men expressed in plain language their opinion of the men who are responsible for keeping Baxter Springs without a decent and adequate water supply. But, after all the discussion, a way out of the dilemma had not been found for the reason that the Chamber of Commerce can only express its desire in the matter. The City Council only can grant the relief needed, and that body does not seem disposed to do anything. The matter was left in the hands of the water committee to try and persuade the city council to take some action.

Chairman Harvey took another shot at the numerous traveling advertising grafters and urged the merchants to refuse to patronize any kind of a scheme that did not have the endorsement of Chairman Barnes of the advertising committee. Mr. Harvey called attention to several instances where the Baxter business men had been "stung." Lately, it appears every outside solicitor that has come along, and there have been many, has been able easily to extract from \$5.00 to \$20.00 apiece out of the business men on some absolutely worthless scheme, while the local newspapers, that go directly to the homes and are important factors in building up the city, have been unable to get the business that is needed to keep the papers up to a standard that will reflect credit to the town.

CHILDREN'S GARDENS  
ADVOCATED BY AUXILIARYLadies of Baxter Springs Attached to Chamber of  
Commerce Auxiliary, Plan  
Children's Gardens

At a meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Baxter Springs Chamber of Commerce, in the reception rooms of the Chamber, Tuesday afternoon, plans were discussed for applying the square-rod garden plan for the children of the city. Each garden is to contain a square rod of ground to the child, either set, between the ages of 10 and 18 years. Seeds will be furnished by the Auxiliary and after the gardens are matured and the products ready for use a children's fair is planned, for exhibition purposes and for the awarding of prizes.

Square-rod gardens contain thirty square rods of soil, considered plenty of space for each child to display whatever gardening ability they may develop, and the plan was decided upon for Baxter Springs after careful investigation and consideration by the ladies.

It is needless to say the plan will be a success, since the ladies are promoting it.

Miss Gladys Rinsling was a Columbus business visitor Tuesday.

FREE DELIVERY  
IF WE WANT ITBut Baxter Springs Must First  
Meet Government Requirements and Show That  
Service is Wanted

Baxter Springs may have free mail delivery just as soon as the city is provided with sidewalks and the streets and avenues designated by names and the houses numbered—and not before.

This is practically the assurance given by Geo. H. Booker, special representative of the U. S. Postal Service, sent here for the express purpose of investigating and reporting on the proposition. Mr. Booker came Monday and Postmaster C. L. Smith has been busy ever since going over the city with him.

The free delivery to be inaugurated first will be known as the village free delivery and will probably not take in the outskirts of the city, but it will be the forerunner of the regular city service which will follow closely on the heels of the first move.

But Baxter cannot get the free delivery until we get sidewalks and house numbers; and whoever is responsible for any further delays in that direction may be held responsible still further for delaying the free delivery and holding Baxter back.

DELAYS AND RED TAPE  
HALTING CITIES GROWTHThe Riverside Building Addition  
Awaits the Establishment  
of Grades and Other  
Delays Are Certain

There were so many things cussed and discussed at the meeting of the city council Tuesday evening that some of the important affairs were overlooked in our report in yesterday's Citizen.

For instance the council adjourned to Tuesday evening, March 12, instead of Friday evening, March 1st. Another important item overlooked was a purpose of requiring contractors to fill a bond of \$500 with the city clerk before starting the construction of a sidewalk within the city limits.

In talking about increase in gas rates the mayor advised taking up the question with the Kansas Public Utilities Commission, remarking that it was his understanding that the Commission was created to protect the rights of the people, but it often appeared from acts or rulings of that body that it was created in the interest of corporations. Fact is it was created to safeguard both the public interest and those of corporations serving the public.

Still other features missed was the appearance of Messrs. W. W. Wakeman and O. W. Fail in the interest of important subdivisions they hoped to have taken into the city. The Opperman tract of 10 acres or more lies between Mr. Wakeman's proposed addition and the city limits and until the Opperman tract is attached to the city there is no way of opening a street to the proposed addition, and no way of taking it into the city. Mr. Wakeman intimated he would start another town to be known as South Baxter if a way was not found to take in his addition, so the question was left open for further investigation and further adjustment.

The Riverside addition is composed of 65 fine residence lots and is owned by Marion Staples of Joplin. Twenty-six lots have been sold and several houses are building and street elevations are necessary so that a building uniformity may be established, and building will be halted until the city furnishes the required grades. A city manager could easily have established the grade without delay and the usual red tape that stops building and other important affairs. The same situation applies in the cases of W. W. Wakeman and O. W. Fail. However, it's too late to grieve over the existing conditions and we must all try and make the best of them.

Condor Kratz, a well known farmer living on the state line south of Baxter Springs, and Miss Lillian Drace, who for some time has been his housekeeper, were married last Sunday.

MILITARY STREET  
TRACK BUILDINGMILITARY, THE CITY'S MAIN  
BUSINESS STREET, BE-  
ING EXCAVATED

## WORK STARTED YESTERDAY

Cars Will Be Running on Principal  
Street Early in March  
Marking An Epoch in  
City Improvement

The Interurban construction gang began excavating Military street Wednesday morning preparatory to laying the track on the main business street of Baxter Springs and, weather permitting, the work will be rushed to early completion, so as to disturb local business on that street as short a period as possible.

The building of this track down our main business street marks an epoch in local history well worthy of mention in these columns. This place has depended on railroad traffic and travel for so long a period that the coming of the Interurban electric system, with its half hour service, is hailed with joy by almost everyone. When the freight service is established, as it surely will be, this place will have just what dealers have long desired, a dependable and rapid means of securing goods and supplies from our nearest wholesale market, at least until this town develops as a wholesale market, and that is an event that will surely follow the development of our wonderful mining fields.

INVITE MINING MEN TO  
JOIN 28TH ENGINEERSBlacksmiths, Firemen, Machine  
Drill Men and Many Other  
Classes Are Urged to  
Help Uncle Sam

Mining men of this district are being invited to join the Twenty-eighth Engineers regiment, now forming at Camp Meade, Maryland. Skilled men right out of the field between the ages of 18 and 41 are desired and the appeal applies to the men of this district if they are either:

Blacksmiths, firemen, machine drill men, machine drill helpers, churn drill men, quarry men, mechanics, powder men, boilermakers, or tool dressers.

The appeal comes about largely through the plea of Captain Fred S. Cook, formerly one of the best known mining men of this district. He recently wrote to his former partner, A. E. Bendelari, asking if it would not be possible to get enlistments from this section for the new regiment. Mr. Bendelari also heard from Major Stan, in command of the organization, with a similar request, and decided to do what he could.

Miners who are willing to join such a regiment, where they can be assured of working at their trade, and in which they are assured of early transport to France, probably not later than May 1 at the latest, are requested to make application either to Mr. Bendelari, at the Eagle-Picher Lead Company's mines at Picher, Okla., to Frank Sansom, in the Keystone building, at Joplin, to T. R. Givens at Carthage, Mo.

Some sixteen applications were received recently by Mr. Bendelari in response to the call for shipbuilders, and he is hopeful that a number of mining men will respond to this call.

The "Heart of America," by Arthur Pryor, has been designated as the official march of the 89th division of the National Army at Camp Funston. The selection was made by Lieut. John Phillip Sousa, who was the final judge. He selected it out of thousands of pieces recommended. He also mentioned four marches for special mention: "Liberty," "March Militaire," "89th Division March," and "A March." Those will all be designated as regimental marches. The contest for the selection of an official division march was started by Major General Leonard Wood, division commandant, last fall.